35.C14025

PATENT APPLICATION

PES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IN THE UNITED In re Application of: FEB 23 2007 Examiner: Unknown JUN YOSHIDA, ET AL. Group Art Unit: 2721 Appln. No.: 09/440,467 Filed: November 15, 1999 ECH CENTER 2700 For: DATA PROCESSING February 23, 2000

Assistant Commissioner For Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents, together with an English language Abstract of the Japanese documents are enclosed. The Japanese documents may be relevant for the reasons discussed at page 3 of the specification.

The listed documents are discussed on pages 2 and 3 of the specification and may be pertinent for the reasons discussed therein.

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The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following copending U.S. patent applications:

Appln. No.	Filing Date	Group Art Unit	<u>Status</u>
09/334,749	June 17, 1999	2721	Pending
09/248,975	February 12, 1999	2721	Pending
09/134,516	August 14, 1998	2766	Allowed
08/996,132	December 22, 1997	3642	Pending

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), no copy of the cited U.S. applications is enclosed.

Applicants submit that no fee is required for consideration of this information since, to the best of their knowledge, no Office Action has been mailed. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees necessary for consideration of this information to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010.

All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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